

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, January 30, 2020 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tammy Bryant, RN, MSN
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC
Merry Fort, RN
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA
Ashlan Porter, RN

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Natar Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Floyd moved, Phipps seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the executive session on Thursday, January 30, 2020, Bryant declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES

(LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Fort moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI200621 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$250 for action in another jurisdiction. The finding of fact should also reference failure to disclose previous arrest.

RNI200431 – Refer to Investigations to obtain video camera footage related to the case. If footage is not available, close case with no action.

LPNI200029 – Schedule an investigative interview. Request licensee to submit a letter of explanation prior to interview.

RNI200814 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent agreement to include a fine of \$2950 for thirty-one (31) months of unlicensed practice.

RNI200767 – Request applicant to submit documentation from Pennsylvania Board of Nursing which clearly verifies that applicant has an active license to practice nursing in Pennsylvania. If not received within thirty days, deny application.

RNI200822 – Send the applicant a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the licensure needed for reentry. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

RNI200826 – Issue single state license with letter of concern (felony conviction).

RNI191388 – Schedule an investigative interview. Request licensee to bring copies of all prescriptions issued to her since January 2019.

LPNI190487 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, and documentation of completion of active practice and continuing competency requirements.

RNI200037 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for revocation.

RNI200071 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Narcotic Drugs; Handling and Documentation, Medication Errors: Don't Let Them Happen to You, and Jurisprudence –Georgia RN.

LPNI200006 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, and documentation of completion of active practice and continuing competency requirements.

LPNI200076 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191118 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Patient Care, Resident's Rights, and Jurisprudence – RN.

RNI191237 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting A Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Improving Patient Safety.

LPNI200122 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand, to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, quarterly reports (personal, employer), courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence-Georgia LPN, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Resident's Rights, and Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients, and investigative costs of \$210.48.

RNI190991 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand, to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, probation for five years, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twenty-four (24) months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Jurisprudence – GA RN, and investigative costs of \$132.33.

RNI200465 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private reprimand, to include probation for five years, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare, psychiatric, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twenty-four (24) months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

RNI200552 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Ethics and Professional Conduct: Striving for a Professional Ideal, Fostering a Culture of Civility and Respect in Nursing, and The ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses With Interpretive Statements: Resource for Nursing Regulation.

LPNI200251 – Send the applicant a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the licensure needed for reentry. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

RNI190223 – Table application pending receipt of safe to practice statement and recommendations from a physician certified in addiction medicine.

RNI180482 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent agreement to include probation for five years, narcotic restrictions for two years, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare, psychiatric), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly urine drug screens, standard work restrictions, a fine of \$625 for unlicensed practice and a course in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI150050 – Send the licensee a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of lifting suspension. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

RNI200570 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent agreement to include probation for five years, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twenty-four (24) months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout order, standard work restrictions, and courses in Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI200747 – Send a letter of modification of sobriety date using date of last clear drug screen.

RNI200549 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, and documentation of completion of active practice and continuing competency requirements.

RNI200792 – Send a letter of modification of sobriety date using date of last clear drug screen. If licensee fails February 20, 2020 hair test, refer to the Attorney General's Office for summary suspension.

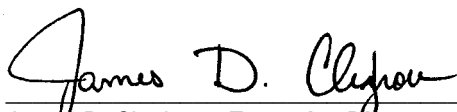
LPNI190309 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, and documentation of completion of active practice and continuing competency requirements.

RNI181376 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$1000 for unprofessional conduct, courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence – GA RN, investigative costs of \$418.23 and peer review cost of \$300.00.

LPNI200248 – Send the applicant a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the licensure needed for reentry. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 4:24 p.m.


James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**